

Timely Tidbits ...

"Wall of Honor" To Recognize TPD Fallen

The Taylor Fraternal Order of Police is planning the installation of a Wall of Honor in tribute to two officers who were lost in the line of duty in 2010: Taylor Police Corporal Matthew Edwards, who was shot while responding to a domestic violence call, and Taylor Auxiliary Lieutenant Dan Kromer, who was struck by a vehicle while assisting a motorist.

The 5'x8' black granite wall will be erected behind the police statue in front of the police station.

Commander Mary Sclabassi of the Taylor Police Department said the FOP has enough funding to get the project off the ground, but more is needed, so the group is soliciting the community's help.

Corporate and private donors who give at least \$1,000 will have their names engraved on the back of the Wall of Honor (which will be visible from all sides). A less expensive option is the purchase of a memorial brick, which will be inscribed and placed near the base of the statue. The bricks are available at \$50, \$100, \$250, and \$300 price levels.

For information, contact Sclabassi at msclabassi@ci.taylor.mi.us or 734-374-1531.

Bowling Event Will Benefit Animal Shelter

The eighth annual Nine-Pin No-Tap Bowling Tournament to support the Romulus Animal Shelter is scheduled for Friday, May 11, at Romulus Lanes (37452 Huron River Drive). The event – dedicated to the memory of longtime Animal Shelter supporter Frank Ayers – will include handicap singles and doubles events, men's and women's mystery games, snacks, cash prizes, and a 50/50 raffle. (This is not a USBC-sanctioned tournament.)

Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m.; bowling will start at 7:30 p.m.

Admission is \$25. Space is limited; early sign-up is recommended.

For information or reservations, call Romulus Lanes (734-941-6200), Romulus City Councilman Bill Wadsworth (734-941-0616), or Joe Ozog (734-941-3466). □

Romulus Library Continues To Expand Programs, Services



Among the most popular programs at the Romulus Public Library is Preschool Story Time, led by Jan Conrad (seated). Youngsters attending the most recent session, which concluded this week, included (from left) Erick Bailey, Annabelle Townsend, Anna Craft, Paige Cloutier, Addison Martin, Madison Cloutier, Alexandra Arrington, Emerson Engle, and Jacob Baker. Photo by Dave Gorgon

It was about a year ago that the Romulus Public Library withdrew from the Wayne County Library System to become a munic-

ipal library. The move saved the City about \$60,000, but also left some with the impression that the library was closed.

Just the opposite is true. The library actually has expanded hours since the initial switchover, and, despite limited funding, the facility has continued to expand some programs and services for residents of Romulus and Huron Township.

At the same time in 2011, the City formed a Board of Directors to oversee the library, and the Friends of the Library continue to assist with fundraising.

The \$60,000 savings and fundraising led to the hiring of Patty Braden as director, the purchase of new books and DVDs, and the expansion of library hours from two to four days a week.

Programs and services are free to the public. They include seasonal preschool story time for young readers, the Second Monday Book Club for adults, the availability of 15 computers, wireless computing and printing capability, free computer classes, and an adult authors series.

The goal is to expand services, although funding for the next fiscal year is still being discussed.

"We are going through the budget review process now," Braden said. "The budget proposal that is currently being reviewed will provide funding for essential library services for our community."

"We've come a long way," Braden continued. "There's just so much further we can go. We've only touched the tip of the iceberg with regard to what we can offer the community. I have many ideas. The people of Romulus and Huron Township deserve a good library with free computer classes and other events, just like other communities."

A federal grant led to the purchase of five new computers and upgrades on the existing computers. Thirteen of the 15 computers have internet access. One computer is now used for searching the online catalog. Another, in the children's area, features educational games for young people.

Preschool story time has grown to include more children and families. A recent partnership between the library and the Romulus Community Schools led to the appearance of The Music Lady, a show for young school children.

The adult authors series has attracted interesting speakers and big crowds. People who bring their own laptops to the library now have the ability to print.

Braden has been working on the aesthetics of the library as well, making sure there are "quiet areas" available with tables, chairs, and outlets so people can study or read, and those with laptops can plug in.

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Belleville Soldier Is Top Jumpmaster



Sergeant 1st Class Kyle Sessoms – a native of Belleville – inspected a paratrooper's helmet during the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division's Jumpmaster of the Year Competition, held on March 29. Winners of the battalion-level competitions contended for the brigade title. Each participant was tested on his/her performance of jumpmaster duties, including rigging of equipment, practical work inside the aircraft, giving a sustained airborne training brief, and personnel inspections. Sessoms won the competition and will advance to the Division-level competition this month. He is the assistant operations noncommissioned officer for 1st Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team. Photo by Sergeant Kissta Feldner/Courtesy of Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System

Letter to the Editor

Editor's note: All "Letters to the Editor" must be signed by the author, and must contain a telephone number where he/she may be reached to verify the letter's authenticity.

Unsigned letters are NEVER published.

The editor reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and brevity.

Memories of War Tragedies

A recent article I read about Army Staff Sergeant Robert Bales, the soldier who is alleged to have murdered innocent civilians, has brought back to me memories of the tragic Vietnam War. In no way would I ever condone and agree with what he has allegedly done, but he must be given the same rights and considerations that any accused Americans would receive until proven guilty. First, the question must be answered: What drove this American warrior, father, husband, and son to do such a thing?

Let's go back and think this over. First of all, if anyone believes this was the first time this has ever happened, he/she is living in a land of OZ. Is it right? No, by no means. But who do we really blame? Those of us who served this great nation, who have faced an enemy who is your friend by day and enemy or best friend at night. Only the Warriors have an understanding of what might have been going through this American Warrior's mind.

Why

On March 16, 1968, US Army troops murdered several hundred Vietnamese civilians at the villages of My Lai and My Khe during the Vietnam War. The victims were mostly elderly men, women, and children – all noncombatants. (Were all of them?) This was stated to be one of the most horrifying atrocities of the entire conflict. That unforgettable day for the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 11th Brigade of the 23rd Infantry Division, Charlie Company, will be a day that they will have to live with for the rest of their lives. But realize this: Before that day, the Army Command had initiated a program of attacking villages that were suspected of harboring (or sympathizing with) the Viet Cong. Mandate was to

burn houses, kill off livestock and spoil crops, and pollute wells in order to deny food, water, and shelter to the VC and their sympathizers. Only one person was convicted of that atrocity: Second Lieutenant William Calley, who was the only one convicted out of 14 officers charged with participating in or covering up the My Lai Massacre. Lt. Calley was sentenced to life in prison, but later had his conviction overturned by the courts and was released. Was this terrible tragedy caused by what we today call Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (WWI – Shell Shock; WWII – Battle Fatigue)? Remember, it was his fourth tour.

Final Thoughts

Yes, this is a tragedy and so wrong, but there are so many to blame. There is so much that happens in war, and just how much can a Warrior take – not only the horrors of war, but the thought of being away from home and family? Only those who have faced the fears of war can understand what might have gone through this Warrior's mind, and only he and God know.

It is time to bring our men and women home to where our streets are more dangerous than any of the streets of Iraq and Afghanistan. We have no money to keep police on the streets of America, but we spend billions in countries that only want one thing, and that is the monies of hard-working Americans who struggle every day just to put food on the table. We lose almost 25,000 US citizens a year to crime – and, just 15 miles from Taylor, children and citizens are losing their lives. We lose more in Detroit in a week than we lose to war casualties in a week. And remember: This nation is seeing a large increase in the Veterans Administration of PTSD claims – which shows that the horrors of war are not only sticking in our Warriors' minds, but causing problems in their lives. And, yes, this means millions paid by taxpayers. And, yes, we should pay. If we put them in harm's way, then we must take care of them.

May God bless America!

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	6	10
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	8	5
Huron High School	9	5
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the little paper

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Business Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

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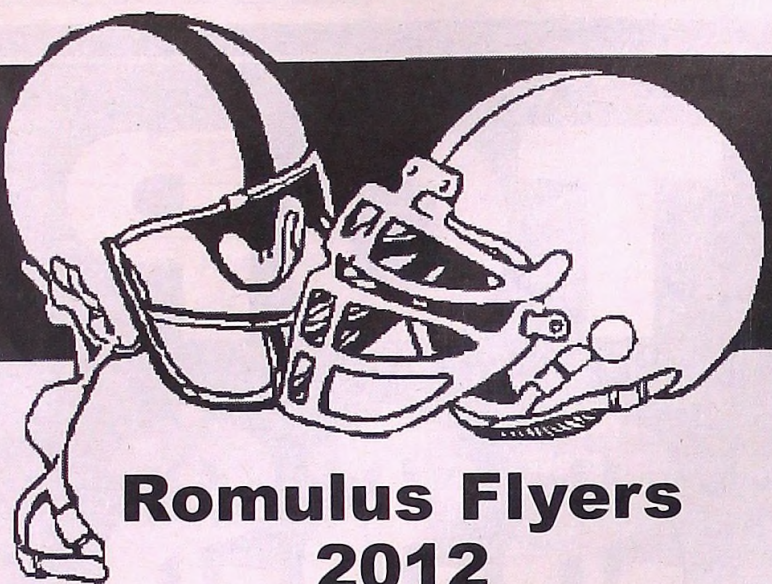


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- **There is No Charge for Varsity Football Players or Cheerleaders ages 12 and 13.**

Contact Information:

John Wester, President – Email: flyers@romulusflyers.org
Phil Brit, Vice President – (734) 512-9813

Historic Cemetery Ready for Upgrades

When it comes to telling the history of Romulus, there may be no more important chapter than the Romulus Memorial Cemetery.

Located at Shook and Tobine roads, the cemetery is the final resting place of deceased armed forces heroes, political figures, public-safety officers, a former Major League baseball player, other well-known families, and 180 years of Romulus residents.

The burial grounds date back to 1832. That makes them older than Michigan, which would not earn statehood until five years later. The cemetery is considered so important to the community that the property is dedicated as a historical landmark.

"I personally believe there is not another cemetery around us that holds this much history," said Jan Lemmon, chairwoman of the Romulus Memorial Cemetery Board of Trustees. "To me, there's no more valuable piece of property in our city."

While the cemetery is filled to about 95% capacity, there is still room for additional burials. Gravesites receive visits each day, and the trustees are hoping to attract donors that are able to contribute to a small expansion and some lasting major improvements to the facility.

"The cemetery is an awesome place, especially in spring when it gets warm," Lemmon said. "The trees are leafing and there are daffodils and tulips in bloom. It's very peaceful."

Several years ago, when the cemetery was in dire need of cleanup and repair, Mayor Alan R. Lambert appointed the board to maintain, manage, care for, and preserve the cemetery. City Clerk Ellen Craig-Bragg is the sexton of the cemetery and the record keeper. Trustees proposed an amendment to the city ordinances to establish cemetery rules and regulations, which were approved by the City Council and now provide guidelines for operations of the burial sites.

"The Cemetery Board and other volunteers have done a wonderful job over-

seeing and cleaning up our cemetery," Lambert said. "They have helped provide proper dignity that is due to the individuals buried there. I am hopeful that their efforts will lead to further improvements."

Lemmon worked 10 years in the funeral business and was a natural choice for the board. Her family has a plot in the cemetery, and she took a more active role when the cemetery needed improvements.

The other current board members are Romulus residents Nancy Champaigne, Tammy McGrane, Craig Plank, Jerry Wendland, and City Councilwoman Linda Choate. Wendland has 91 relatives buried in the cemetery and is a direct descendant of Polly Pullen, the first person laid to rest at the location.

The cemetery got its start when Warren Blair purchased 80 acres of land from the U.S. government. The next year, he donated a portion of the property to use as burial grounds. His family members are buried in what was originally known as Blair Cemetery.

The earliest recorded burial is Polly Pullen, the wife of Jenks Pullen, who served in the New York Militia War in 1812 and is considered to be a founder of Romulus. It was Jenks Pullen and his six sons who settled at what became known as "Pullen's Corners," an intersection now commonly called "Five Points."

The first Romulus Township meeting was held in April 1835 in the house of Joseph T. Pullen, and the first township supervisor was David J. Pullen. Romulus didn't incorporate as a city until 1970.

Much of the cemetery's history can be tracked through the members of the U.S. armed forces who are buried at the site. Ira S. Hall, who served in the War of 1812, moved to Romulus in 1836 and died on June 20, 1859.

In 1877, Blair's son sold the cemetery. At the time, there were 170 burials. The property was named Blair Cemetery as late as 1889.

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(From left) Cemetery Board Chairwoman Jan Lemmon and Board members Jerry Wendland, Councilwoman Linda Choate, Tammy McGrane, Craig Plank, and Nancy Champaigne have put a great deal of thought and labor into improving Romulus Memorial Cemetery. Photo by Dave Gorgon

DeCaires, Robertson Retire from RPD



Romulus Police Corporal Dwayne DeCaires was joined by his wife Kathy and son Eric at a reception honoring recent department retirees.

During a recent luncheon, Romulus Police Corporals Dwayne DeCaires and Matthew Robertson said "goodbye" to police work and "hello" to retirement.

"Both of these officers, who served our community for around 50 years combined, have been dedicated and committed public servants – and they will be greatly missed," said Romulus Mayor Alan Lambert. "On behalf of all Romulus residents, I thank them for a job well done."

Corporal DeCaires worked in numerous assignments and units throughout his career and recently received a Departmental Life Saving Award for his outstanding efforts in rescuing a resident who had been overcome by carbon monoxide poisoning.

Corporal Robertson was a decorated officer who, up until his retirement, was a member of the Downriver Mutual Aid SWAT Team and also served as one of the

Romulus Police Department's field training officers.

During their retirement reception, both corporals received a professionally designed retirement plaque that was uniquely assembled with their actual police badges forever affixed to the plaque. The reception was attended by their families, fellow officers, friends, and local elected officials. Both corporals thanked their families, the community, and their coworkers for the support and camaraderie they received throughout their careers.

"Even though new officers have been hired to replace the retiring officers, it will be extremely difficult to replace the experience and expertise both of these officers brought to work each and every day," said Romulus Chief of Police Robert Dickerson. "They worked hard to help keep Romulus safe. We thank them and wish them well."



Helping Corporal Matthew Robertson celebrate his retirement were his wife Terri and daughters (from left) Matti, Lexi, and Sydney. Photos by Dave Gorgon

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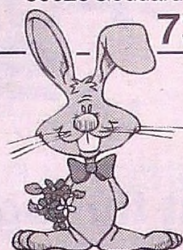
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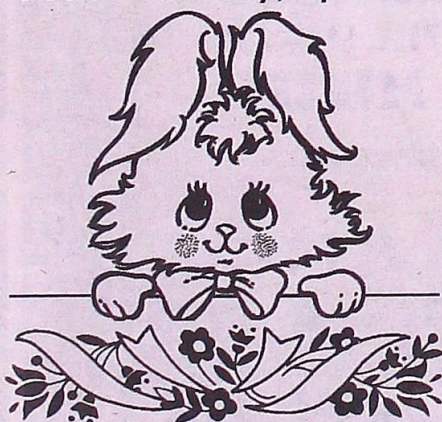
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RHS Softball Is Off to Good Start

Jenn Slyman, head coach of Romulus High School's varsity softball program, is pleased with the 4-2 start her team has made this spring. The girls began the season with a 7-4 win over Ann Arbor Skyline in their home opener on March 28, and have also defeated Redford Union (16-1), Robichaud (16-0), and Annapolis (3-0). The two losses came against Wyandotte (7-6) and John Glenn (9-5).

"We are having an excellent season so far, as the girls are working very hard," said Slyman. "They're playing very solid games."

Standout players, according to Slyman, include junior Chelsea Shellman and sophomore Alexis Swanson.

"Chelsea catches and plays centerfield as well as shortstop," Slyman said. "She is a power hitter who bats third in the lineup."

"Alexis is another good athlete," she continued. "She is a starting pitcher as well as a first and third baseman."

Other members of the Lady Eagles - also coached by Jerrold Smith - include seniors Jennifer Lukas, Katrina McKinney, Kayte Nickel, and Azia Riley; juniors Alicia Adams, Danielle Blanc, Megan Dotson, and Jaida Young; sophomore Miranda Sapp; and freshman Brooke Waldon.



Sophomore Alexis Swanson - one of the standout athletes on Romulus High School's softball team - can play first and third as well as pitch.
Photo by Dave Gorgon

The next home game will be against Crestwood on Friday, April 20, at 4 p.m. □

Library Expands Programs, Services

continued from page 1

She said the library aisles are now wider, making the facility more functional and able to accommodate wheelchairs, and making the library compliant with the mandates of the American Disabilities Act.

Current library hours are noon to 8 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday. Beginning May 25, the library will be open on Fridays instead of Saturdays, but further expanding hours is on Braden's list of goals. Additional hours/days would require additional staff, including a youth librarian.

Braden said volunteers from the Library Board, the Friends of the Library, and other individuals "have helped us keep the library open. We couldn't do it without them."

That being said, "We can't continue to rely on volunteers indefinitely, although

they have been amazing," Braden added. "We need trained, seasoned staff that come to us with experience."

Other goals include expanding programming, especially for adults. Braden is planning another authors series, and wants to offer programs on the use of electronic devices such as e-readers and other topics.

Computer use is high at the library, with people searching for jobs and filling out applications online. Beginning computer classes provided by Library Assistant Michele Rinehart and Friends of the Library member Nikki Chisholm have given more people computer skills and internet access.

"We have a responsibility to the taxpayer," Braden said. "We want to offer as many programs and services as possible. We're all about 'free.' Our library is an example of tax dollars at work." □



Recent programs offered at the library included a visit from The Music Lady, which was cosponsored by Romulus Community Schools. *Photo by Roger Kadam*

Easter Fun in Romulus



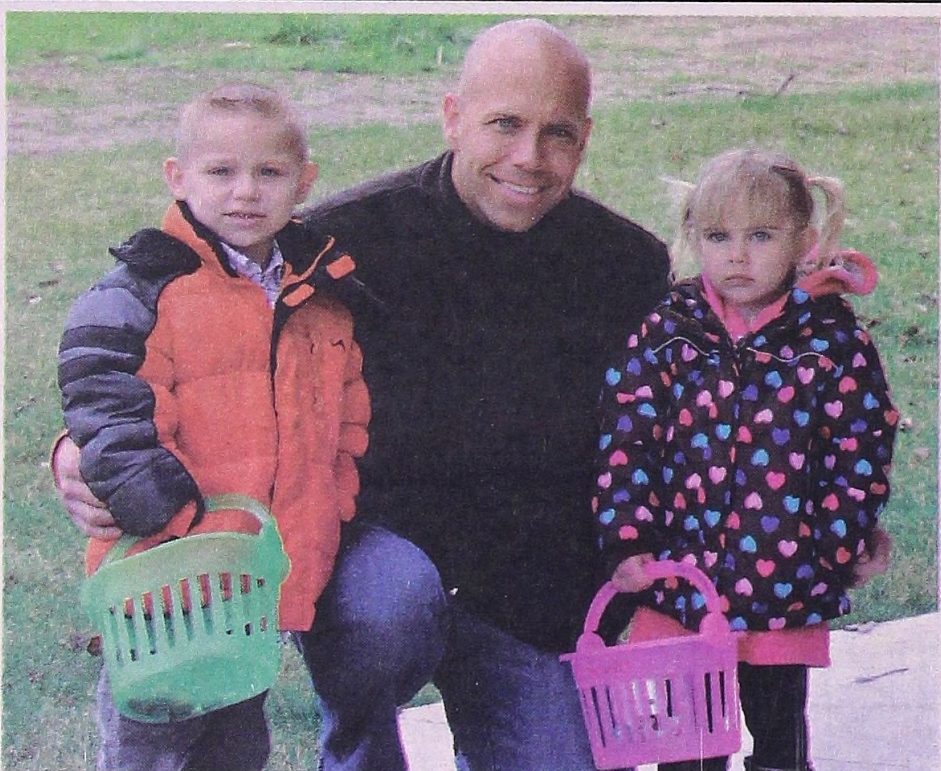
Kayla Desrochers, age 5, was one of more than a hundred children who took part in an Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Romulus Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Pumpkin Festival Committee at Historical Park on March 31.



Noah Braswell, 2, had his picture taken with the Easter Bunny.



Three-year-old Samaria Searcy put on a big smile for her photo op.



Lieutenant Scott Ladach of the Romulus Fire Department enjoyed spending the day with his children Drew, age 4, and Brooklyn, 3. Photos by Dave Gorgon



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A graphic of a weathered wooden board with a "WANTED" poster. The text on the poster reads: "WANTED", "WE'RE STEALING LOANS, AND YOU COME OUT THE WINNER!", "REWARD", "\$50.00 GAS CARD", "IF WE CAN'T STEAL YOUR LOAN AND LOWER YOUR PAYMENT", and "*LOAN APPROVAL QUALIFICATIONS APPLY." Below the text are several stars and a star-shaped seal. The Public Service Credit Union logo and NCUA logo are at the bottom.

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Community Calendar

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to *the little paper* at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038, or send us an e-mail to helittlepaper@comcast.net. Deadline for copy is 5 p.m. on Friday, April 13.

Belleville

CERT Training Program Offered

Tri-Community CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Program will conduct a training session for new members at the Sumpter Township Fire Station 20550 Sumpter Road, Belleville) on Saturday, April 14, and Sunday, April 15, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Preregistration (required) may be made either by phone (734-657-5333) or email cert.belleville@gmail.com.

Call 734-942-7540 for information.

Dinner/Auction Benefits BACA

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts will hold its next monthly Benefit Dinner/Chinese Auction from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, April 15, at the Belleville Masonic Temple (515 Main Street, at High Street). In keeping with an Easter theme, the menu will consist of ham with all the trimmings, plus beverages and a selection of homemade desserts. Carry-out service will be available.

Cost for the meal is \$9 per person or \$5 for children age 10 and under. Auction tickets will be 50¢ each.

For information, call 734-697-8123 or visit www.bellevilleartscouncil.org.

New Boston

Chicken Supper at Willow Church

Willow United Methodist Church (36925 Willow Road) is holding a chicken supper fund-raiser on Wednesday, April 11, from 5 p.m. until sold out. (Carry-out service will be available starting at 4:30 p.m.)

The menu will feature fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, biscuits & gravy, dinner rolls, dessert, and beverages (coffee, hot tea, or milk).

Tickets will be \$9 for adults; \$5 for children ages 12 and under.

For information, call 734-654-9020.

"Family & Friends CPR"

A Family & Friends CPR course to be offered at Willow United Methodist Church (36925 Willow Road) will teach the basics of hands-only CPR, adult CPR & automated external defibrillator (AED) use, child CPR & AED use, infant CPR, and first aid for choking victims.

Anyone interested in learning to save a life, but not in need of a course-completion card, can benefit from the program, taught by a certified American Heart Association "basic life support" instructor. Classes will be offered Friday, April 20, at 6 p.m.; Saturday, April 21, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.; and Sunday, April 22, at 11 a.m.

A \$20 fee covers the class and instruction book; 10% of the cost will be donated to Willow Church. Deadline for registration is Wednesday, April 18.

For information, or to register, call Tamra at 734-262-9111.

Indoor Flea Market at St. Paul's Church

The St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church indoor flea market will be held in the church activity building (19109 Craig Street) on the following dates:

- Thursday, April 26, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
- Friday, April 27, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and
- "Bag Day": Saturday, April 28, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Call 734-753-9048 for information.

Romulus

50/50 Cash Bingo at St. Aloysius

St. Aloysius Parish is inviting the public to attend its 50/50 Cash Bingo event, to be held at the church activity center (37200 Neville Street) on Saturday, April 14, from 1 to 10 p.m.

Cost is \$.25 per card or five cards for \$1. Hourly coverall: \$1. Cash prizes on all bingos. Refreshments will be available for purchase.

For information, call the Parish Office (734-941-5056) or Joe Ozog (941-3466).

Roast Beef Dinner at CUMC

The next Roast Beef Dinner fund-raiser at Community United Methodist Church (11160 Olive Street) will be held on Saturday, April 14, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Suggested donation is \$9 for adults and \$4 for children ages 6 to 12. Kids 5 and under eat free!

Carry-out orders are also welcome. Call 734-941-0736.

Living Rock Church Hosts Revival

Living Rock Church (33200 Ecorse Road, between Merriman and Wayne roads) is inviting the public to attend a Holy Ghost Revival at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 16, and Tuesday, April 17. Guest speaker for the event will be Pastor Tommy Bates (Community Family Church, Independence, KY).

For info, call Pastor Frank Howard or Sis Michele Eaton (734-641-4321).

Dinner Honors Poet

Jim Poet – recently named 27th Person of the Year by the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce – will be recognized at an award dinner on Friday, April 20, at the Detroit Metro Airport Marriott Hotel (30559 Flynn Drive).

The lifelong Romulus resident is being honored for his volunteer work with the Romulus Fire Department, Little League, Progressive Club, and Goodfellows, among other groups.

Tickets are \$35 per person. Deadline for reservations is Thursday, April 12.

For information, or to reserve tickets, contact Chamber Executive Director Karen LaBelle by phone (734-893-0694) or email info@romuluschamber.com.

Bird Fair at RHS

The Rainbow Feathers Bird Club will present its 15th annual Bird Fair at Romulus High School (9650 Wayne Road) on Saturday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission is \$3. Children 12 and younger are admitted free.

For information, call 734-422-5981.

Volunteers Sought for Pumpkin Festival

The next meeting of the Romulus Downtown Development Authority's Pumpkin Festival Committee will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 1, at Romulus City Hall (11111 Wayne Road).

The committee will meet on the first Tuesday of each month to plan the 2012 festival, which will be held September 14–16 in Romulus Historical Park.

For information, call the Pumpkin Festival Hotline: 734-955-4577.

"Second Monday Book Club" Meets

The next meeting of the Second Monday Book Club – a reading discussion group open to everyone age 18 or older – will be held at the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road) at 7 p.m. on May 14.

The book to be discussed will be *You Don't Look Like Anyone I Know* by Heather Sellers.

Books scheduled for future discussion include:

- *Autobiography of Mrs. Tom Thumb* by Melanie Benjamin (June 11), and
- *The Wives of Henry Oades* by Johanna Moran (July 9).

Call 734-942-7589 for information.

Register Now for Citywide Rummage Sale

Romulus residents are invited to take part in the annual Citywide Rummage Sale, set for Thursday, May 17, through Sunday, May 20. (If two or more of the sale dates are "rained out," the event will be rescheduled for May 31–June 3.)

To register for a free sale permit – and have your address included in free newspaper ads and flyers for the event – visit the Romulus City Clerk's office (located in City Hall at 11111 Wayne Road) by *Thursday, April 26*.

Residents registering after the deadline will still receive a free permit, but may not be included in any advertising.

Call 734-942-7540 for information.

Romulus Democratic Club Meets

The Romulus Democratic Club meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month at UAW Local 174 (29841 Van Born Road).

Taylor

Taylor Garden Club Meets

The Taylor Garden Club is inviting the public to attend its next meeting to hear noted speaker/author Brenda Dziedzic discuss "Brenda's Butterfly Habitat," a new place to learn about butterflies native to our area and see the complete life cycle of our winged friends.

The free event will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 19, at the Ford Senior Activity Center (6750 Troy Street).

For information, contact Nancy Smith (smithnan88@yahoo.com / 734-287-6851) or visit www.taylorgardenclub.com.

Celebrate Spring at Petting Farm's Sheep Shearing

Come and watch the shearing of the sheep at Heritage Park Petting Farm (12803 Pardee Road, at Northline Road) on Saturday, April 21, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event will also feature a display of items made from hand-spun sheep's wool, demonstrations of hoof-trimming, a visit from "Ruthie" the cow, a Tri-County Two Cylinder Tractor Club showcase, Q&A on pet care with staff from Gibraltar Veterinary Hospital, and free sheep crafts and coloring. Face-painting by Flutterby Faces and light refreshments will be available for purchase.

Admission is \$4 per person; Taylor residents with photo ID receive a \$1 discount. Children age 1 and under get in free.

For information, call 734-374-5946.

Craft & Vendor Show

A Craft & Vendor Show will be held at the Taylor Moose Family Center (9981 South Telegraph Road, between Wick and Goddard roads) on Sunday, April 22, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Rental tables (\$25 each; electricity provided for an additional charge) is available. For an application, contact Sue Richards by telephone (248-468-9129) or email (TaylorMoose.Craft_Vendor@yahoo.com).

Taylor Announces Citywide Rummage Sale Dates

Taylor's annual Citywide Rummage Sale is set for Thursday, May 24, through Thursday, May 31. During that period, residents may hold their own rummage sales without purchasing a permit.

The event will be followed by free disposal service – available to Taylor residents *only* – at the Transfer Station (16300 Racho Road) on Friday, June 1, and Saturday, June 2, during normal business hours.

For information, call 734-287-6550.

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Historic Cemetery Ready for Upgrades

continued from page 3

Throughout the years, the property has changed hands several times. In 1883, Charlotte Davis purchased the property. Records show that Rufus Crossman bought the property and created an addition to the south side of the cemetery in 1893.

Robert Monomus, born in 1847, is the first known Civil War veteran buried in the cemetery. He was only 14 years old when he enlisted in the 102nd U.S. Colored Troops Union's Black Unit. He was 94 at the time of his death on May 14, 1942.

There are 25 Civil War veterans buried in the Romulus Memorial Cemetery.

Also buried in Romulus is Charles Cawetzke, a Medal of Honor recipient of the Spanish-American War who also fought in the Philippine Islands.

On December 7, 1901, the Romulus Township Board of Trustees adopted a resolution allowing the township to take control of the cemetery. Expansions took place in the south section in 1921, the west section in 1947, and the north section in 1957.

Many gravesites carry the names of people important to Romulus history. Some are Robert C. Bird and S.R. Kingsley, who were township trustees that voted to take over the cemetery; Ellen and James McBride, whose surname is the name of a Romulus street; former Mayor William Oakley; former Romulus Board of Education President Carl Morris, who is the namesake of the Romulus Post Office; Mary Ann Banks, a former Council Chairwoman and the namesake of a city park near Five Points; former Councilman Ellis Pennington; former DPW Director Robert Plank, a Korean War veteran; former lumber business owner and home builder Homer Harris; and former Major League baseball player Charlie Lau, who grew up in Romulus. There are many others.

In 1989, the Romulus Historical Society was granted approval to designate Romulus Memorial Cemetery a historic landmark.

In recent years, the cemetery was in need of improvements. After the Board of Trustees was appointed, members scheduled a May 2010 clean-up effort that saw board members and other volunteers unearth and upright headstones, clear debris,

and remove brush that covered monuments for decades.

Street numbers were added to the fence, signs were installed detailing cemetery rules and regulations, and pamphlet boxes were made by Roger Staten and his coworkers at the Romulus Department of Public Works.

Among the volunteers were Linda McNeil, Mark Lewkowicz, Roger Kadau, Nan Meyer, Gayle Mach and her son Ben, and Wayne Laginess, his son Colton, and several other Boy Scouts.

The cemetery's Veterans Memorial, which was overgrown with brush, was cleaned by members of Romulus Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9568. The monument was power-washed by Wiley Montgomery, who also placed a silver chain around the memorial. The VFW has donated a new flag pole that is scheduled for installation this spring.

"To me, this has been a rewarding project because of the history and because I was born and raised here," Lemmon said. "For the people, I think it gives them peace because their loved ones are buried here. It is all about respect and dignity for a final resting place."

The Board of Trustees provided information for a booklet, created by City Clerk Craig-Bragg, that addresses the rules and regulations inside the cemetery and lists the cemetery fees and charges.

The Cemetery Board chairwoman said most people who bury loved ones in the cemetery understand the rules and know the reason for them.

"All of the rules were made to go across the cemetery and to treat everyone equal. They understand that only certain items are appropriate for placement on gravesites. That has been one of our goals."

The Cemetery Board is interested in keeping the improvements going. Trustees' goals include more landscaping improvements, such as removing branches and grass shielding grave markers, lifting and resetting markers (especially the military veterans' markers that have sunk into the ground), replacing the fencing that is falling down, and platting the northwest corner of the cemetery for additional gravesites.

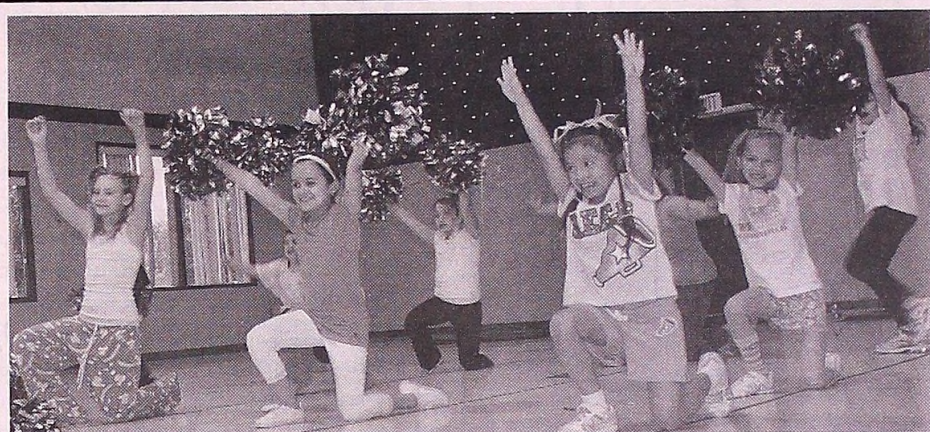
They want to add flower beds to the south entrance using plants that were common in the 1800s. Bradford Pear Trees will grace the Shook Road side of the cemetery. A Japanese Lilac Tree will enhance the south entrance.

When Jim Jones of Romulus landscaping company WH Canon learned of the project, he volunteered to provide a landscape design – for which the Cemetery Board is grateful.

"I believe people are paying attention and appreciate the improvements to the cemetery," Lemmon said. "We are doing our job with dignity and compassion."

To volunteer to help clean up the cemetery, call City Clerk Ellen Craig-Bragg at 734-942-7540. To learn of sponsorship opportunities, call Economic Development Director Timothy Keyes at 734-942-7545.

Fun at Heritage Park



Each Wednesday, young people ages 4 and older head to the Heritage Park Activity Building in Taylor for cheerleading lessons through Young Champions of America. For information about the program – open to beginner, intermediate, and advanced students – visit <http://www.youngchampionsofamerica.com/michigan/youth-programs/cheerleading>. Photos by Dave Gorgon



Students at Taylor's Hoover Middle School ventured to Heritage Park on April 2 to take part in an after-school recycling program coordinated by Wayne Metro Community Action Agency. The teens picked up rubbish around the park and discovered that about half of it was recyclable. Site Manager Brienn Schafrank (left) said the program was funded by a grant from Youth Service America.



When kids at Blair Moody Elementary in Taylor had a half day of school on March 21, their moms planned a picnic at the park. Pictured (from left) are: front – sisters Betsy, Mia, and Brenda Egler and friends Avery Busch and Hailey Wyson; back – Donna Egler, daughter LaToya Egler, and Angie Busch.

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The Stork Arrived!

Aleczaider and Brendan McCormack-Ward



Brendan and Aleczaider

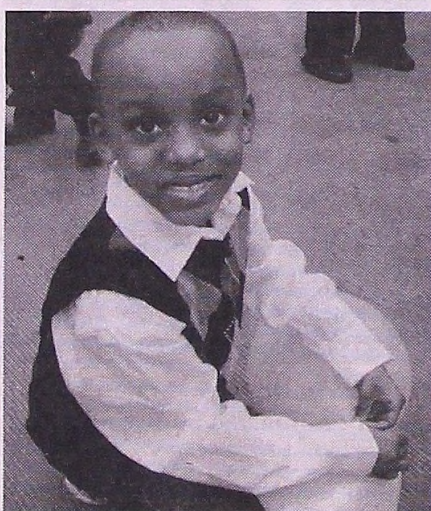
Mary and Jason McCormack-Ward of Romulus, Michigan, are proud to announce the birth of Aleczaider James and Brendan Michael.

The twins were born at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital (Ann Arbor, MI) on Thursday, October 6, 2011, with Aleczaider arriving at 12:59 p.m. and Brendan following at 1:01 p.m. Aleczaider weighed 5 lbs., 5 oz., and measured 17.5 in., while Brendan weighed 4 lbs., 13 oz., and measured 17 in.

Among those giving the new arrivals a warm and loving welcome into the family were their paternal grandmother, Deborah Caloia, and stepgrandfather Dan (Bradenton, FL); maternal grandfather, Leroy Moore, and stepgrandmother Jennifer (Romulus); maternal grandmother, Hazel Moore (Romulus); and paternal great-grandparents, Bill and Doris McCormack (New Boston, MI). □

A Celebration!

Charles Family Birthday/Anniversary



Kenny Charles, Jr.



Billie and Marie Charles

Congratulations and best wishes to the Charles family of Romulus, who will be commemorating both a birthday and an anniversary this month.

Kenny Lehom Charles Jr. will be six years old on April 11, 2012, and his grandparents, Billie and Marie Charles, will be

married 25 years on April 15, 2012.

A celebratory dinner will be held on Wednesday, April 11, at the Coleman Community Center (35351 Beverly Road, Romulus). Doors will open at 5 p.m.; dinner will be served at 6 p.m. All are welcome. Please RSVP by calling 734-729-6566. □

Free Community Garden Beds Available

Reservations are being accepted for boxes in the Romulus Community Garden, located west of the Romulus Senior Center (36525 Bibbins Street).

Applications—available in the office of the Community Development Department at Romulus City Hall (11111 Wayne Road)—will be accepted through April 30 or until all 20 of the 3-by-8-foot raised garden boxes are reserved.

Planting will take place at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 12, during the City's

annual Clean Sweep event. Gardeners must provide their own tools, soil preparation products, and food for their crops. Members of Boy Scouts Troop 872 will be available to assist with planting and watering, if needed.

The boxes are made possible by the Romulus Downtown Development Authority, Troop 872, and local volunteers.

For more information, call the Senior Center at 734-955-4120 or the DDA at 734-955-4533. □

Memorial Service

Barbara J. Roach



Barbara Roach

The family of Barbara J. Roach is inviting those who knew and loved her to attend a memorial service and brunch commemorating the one-year anniversary of her death.

Barbara, who was employed at Public Service Credit Union for more than 20 years, touched the lives of many coworkers and clients during her time there. She was a genuinely caring person, and her friendly smile, warm heart, and helpful demeanor endeared her to all who had the privilege of being near her.

She was especially treasured by her husband Chris and their children and grandchildren.

The service for Barbara will be held at noon on Saturday, April 14, at Cadillac Memorial Cemetery (34224 Ford Road, Westland), in the white chapel near the pond. Comments from those willing to share their remembrances of Barbara will be welcomed by the family.

Afterward, a brunch will be held at Fire Mountain (34615 Warren Road, Westland).

Cost is \$11 per person. To make sure that enough seating is available, please RSVP by calling Chris (734-728-8220) and leaving a message on the answering machine no later than Thursday, April 12. □

Obituaries

Robert Alexander Boik

Robert Alexander Boik of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on March 24, 2012, at the age of 71.

The son of Nicholas Boik and Margaret (Clark) Boik was born in Detroit, Michigan on August 17, 1940.

Bob retired from Ford Motor Company after working there for 30 years. He enjoyed working on cars, hunting, fishing, bowling, and playing cards.

Surviving Bob are his wife Margery; 2

sons, Robert (Michelle) Boik and William (Renee) Boik; 10 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

He was predeceased by his parents; his brother Charles; and 2 sisters, Jean and Joan.

A funeral service was held on March 28 at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Pastor Robert White (Grace Baptist Church, Belleville, MI) officiating. Interment was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery, with a Veterans Honor Guard committal service.

Georgia Maxine Busch

Georgia Maxine Busch of Huron Township, Michigan, passed away on March 28, 2012, at the age of 89.

The daughter of George and Lily (Anderson) Myers was born in Cobden, Illinois, on April 21, 1922. She enjoyed gardening and taking walks.

Surviving Georgia are her husband of

71 years, George Busch; a son, John Busch; a daughter, Diana Davis; a brother, David Myers; and a sister, Lily Mae Ward.

She was predeceased by her parents; a brother, Roy Myers; and 2 sisters, Ruth Myers and Helena Barwick.

Cremation rites were accorded; a memorial service will be held at a later date.

Volunteers Sought for Romulus Clean Sweep

Operation Clean Sweep—an annual volunteer clean-up program organized by the City of Romulus—will be held on Saturday, May 12. Participants can spend the day cleaning up areas in their own neighborhood or area of choice, or they can meet at the Romulus Senior Center (36525 Bibbins Street) at 9:30

a.m. to pick up assignments as well as rubbish bags and gloves. Suggested work period is 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Refreshments (bagels, donuts, and coffee) will be provided at the Center before cleanup begins.

Call 734-955-4502 for further information. □

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Electronics Recycling:

• Computer CPUs, monitors, printers, scanners, keyboards, mice • Cell phones, fax machines, copiers, and televisions

ONLY HOUSEHOLD generated products from Wayne County residents will be accepted.

Items that will not be accepted include:

Commercial waste, Industrial waste, radioactive material, explosives, ammunition, 55-gallon drums, shock sensitive materials, household trash, refrigerators, microwaves or other appliances, tires, yard waste, roofing shingles, and concrete.

For information on how to dispose of these items, please contact the Wayne County Resource Recovery Coordinator at 734-326-3936.



Romulus Community Schools *Presents*

Kindergarten Round-Up

April 24, 2012

at

Cory Elementary School

11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.



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